SAMPLES OF NEWS SERVICES FOR MACHINERY CAMPAIGN

County farmers are being encouraged to inventory their equipment needs in order that they may take the necessary steps to have their farm machinery in good shape for spring work, says _______, county agricultural agent.

Many local farm-equipment dealers are ready for the repair campaign because they have built up their stocks of replacement parts. Because of shortages existing in some types of steel, manufacture of farm equipment will be curtailed this year. Priorities have been issued for steel for the making of repairs with the intention of making usable most of the older equipment now on farms.

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Welding of frames and the insertion of braces and other simple engineering devices can well make farm equipment useful long after it has apparently become weakened and rickety. New floor boards, fastened with new bolts, will stiffen the frame of many wagons that have years of life ahead of them when these simple repairs are completed. In this emergency in our Nation's life, farmers are urged to relieve the pressure on factories to free them for the manufacture of implements of war.

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How can repair parts for farm implements help to win a shooting war? By freeing steel for war use.

Many farmers let their repairs go until spring, but 1942 is different. Equipment manufacturers have been allotted a definite amount of steel. Whether this goes into new equipment or into repair parts for good used equipment now in farmers' hands will be determined by the orders placed now by wise farmers who have gone over their equipment carefully and planned their repairs.

One hundred pounds of repairs may mean the saving of a ton of steel. Why? A hundred pounds of steel used for making repair parts may mean that a 1-ton machine won't be needed, and the other 1,900 pounds of steel can go into tanks, guns, and ships. War in 1942 is a lot different, and these little points are big things to consider in these days.

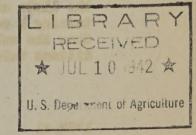
The United States Department of Agriculture, through its Defense Boards in rural areas, is urging farmers to

BUY REPAIRS NOW

or

BUY YOUR FARM EQUIPMENT REPAIRS NOW

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"Ersatz" has become a familiar word. Its meaning is not so important as the connotations. Ersatz implies an inferior substitute, and that seems to be the case in Germany where they have held fairs devoted to the display of ersatz materials!

The word selected for use in our economy is "alternate." That it does not mean inferior substitute is already apparent. A textile manufacturer in the East was forced, because of shortages, to adopt an alternate chemical for treating his yarn. Much to his suprise he found the alternate was superior, cheaper, and required less maintenance work on the machines. He had resisted for years the recommendations of chemists that he change to this alternate.

This same condition is being found in many of our substitutions. We have had a habit of using certain things, not because they were really the best for the job, but we were just used to them. Is it necessary to have an aluminum ash tray? Must a blotter be white? Are white-sidewall tires really better? Many of our alternate materials will fall into the same category, and we won't have to go to ersatz.

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Some types of farm machinery are built of angle steel, bolted together, in order to keep down the cost. A regular procedure is to tighten up these bolts. However, a time is reached when the bolts no longer get a good grip due to wear of other parts, enlargement of the bolt holes, and similar difficulties. The modern welding torch supplies the answer to this problem.

Welding of small braces, corner pieces, reinforcements, and other small parts will stiffen these old frames and make them as strong and rigid as new. With the necessity of saving steel on the one hand, and plain pocketbook economy on the other, farmers will do well to consider a reconditioning job, rather than attempting to replace the machine at this critical time.

Some machines have bolts in inaccessible places, requiring the use of a special wrench to reach them. The bother of keeping the wrench at hand, or of checking these hard-to-reach places can be avoided by having the parts welded at the same time the corners are being traced.

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Saplings for fence posts may be easily treated by a method developed by the Forest Products Laboratory. Soon after felling, but before the limbs are removed, the tree is placed upright in a barrel or vat containing a solution of zinc chloride. The natural action of the tree will draw the solution into the pores before the tree dies. Under certain conditions this treatment is equivalent to pressure treating.

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The shortage of copper for defense uses suggests that now is the time to check over any motors in use on the farm, either in the barns or the house. There is a lot of copper in a motor; and if the commutator shows signs of excessive wear, the motor should be taken to a competent mechanic to replace the work parts and remove the cause of the wear. Even if the commutator is in good shape, check the brushes and bearings.

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Have you been thinking of replacing the hinges or hasps on the barn door? Or has the wife been after you to fix the cupboard? Now is the time to do it. There is no definite shortage of hardware at this time, but most hardware is made of steel, and steel is a vital defense material.

The same thoughts apply to water pipes, fencing, grain bins, farm machinery, sheet-iron stoves, stovepipes, and other articles made of iron and steel.

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SAMPLES OF SHORT FILLERS FOR THE MAKE-UP MAN

Buy repair parts for your equipment now. It may be too late next spring.

Water in tractor tires should be treated with antifreeze.

Grease should be applied to all bright metal parts when storing equipment, and not only to the bearings.

Drain the water from the bottom of the fuel tank. The gas wasn't watered; the moisture condenses on cool mornings.

The right grade of good oil will stand the terrific punishment inside the cylinder. Poor oil exposes the cylinder walls to damage. Oil is cheaper than a rebore job.

Pulleys should be oiled occasionally, and before laying away.

Loaded bearings wear faster. Keep a spare on hand.

Tighten the bolts at regular intervals. Vibration loosens them and causes more vibration. Heavy vibration will shear heavy parts.

Have you asked your equipment dealer about getting your repairs?

The wise farmer builds an implement shed -- and uses it.

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